

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 DOTE-00 OC-05 CCO-00

MC-02 TRSE-00 SAM-01 CG-00 AID-05 A-01 /097 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0368

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USDOCOSOUTH

6931 SCTY GRP

OIC NAVDET SOUDA BAY

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSAREUR

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6824

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR GR

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FORMED ON CRETE TO OPPOSE U.S.

MILITARY PRESENCE

REF: ATHENS 6189(NOTAL)

1. DESPITE THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GREEK ARMED FORCES
COMMAND ON AUGUST 13 (REFTEL, WHICH WAS INTENDED TO SET THE
RECORD STRAIGHT CONCERNING THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE ON
CRETE, SUSPICIONS AND CONCERNS ON THE PART OF SOME
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ELEMENTS ON THAT ISLAND HAVE CONTINUED. AS ONE EXPRESSION

OF THESE CONCERNS, A NINE-MEMBER PAN-CRETAN STRUGGLE COMMITTEE WAS FORMED ON AUGUST 24 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE BISHOP OF HANIA. IRINEOS.

2. THE COMMITTEE HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT "FOREIGN BASES" CONSTITUTE A DEADLY DANGER TO GREEK NATIONAL SECURITY AND TO "THE LIFE, FREEDOM AND VALUES OF OUR PEOPLE." ACCORDINGLY, IT DECIDED ON A FIVE-POINT PROGRAM WHICH INTER ALIA (A) DECLARED THE COMMITTEE'S OPPOSITION TO EITHER THE MOVEMENT OF SUCH BASES FROM THE GREEK MAINLAND TO CRETE OR THE INSTALLATION OF ANY NEW FOREIGN BASES ON CRETE; (B) REQUESTED THE DEFINITIVE DISSOLUTION OF FOREIGN BASES ALREADY OPERATING ON CRETE AND THROUGHOUT GREECE; AND (C) REQUESTED THE GOG TO CONSIDER THE VIEWS OF THE CRETAN PEOPLE BOTH IN THE US- GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH ARE TO BE RESUMED SOON, AND ALSO IN THE NEGOTIATIONS RELEVANT TO GREEK WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO.

3. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT EARLIER CONCERN EXPRESSED IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS OVER THE POSSIBLE TRANSFER TO CRETE OF EXISTING US BASES IN ATTICA HAS NOW BEEN BROADENED TO INCLUDE THE REQUESTED WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. BASES ALREADY ON CRETE.

4. COMMENT: CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED ON CRETE WHICH ATTACK ON ARCHBISHOP OF CRETE EUGENIOS WHO IS ACCUSED OF SUPPORTING THE CONCEPT OF FOREIGN (I.E. U.S.) BASES BEING LOCATED ON CRETE. ONE CIRCULAR IN EFFECT RAISES THE QUESTION "WHO IS FORCING HIM TO ACT IN THAT WAY?".
KUBISCH

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